

control over land and property. Although Mr. Blohm was a critic of state Coastal Commission procedures, in 1978, the Board of Supervisors picked Mr. Blohm as its representative on the Coastal Commission.

Mr. Blohm remained strong in his beliefs, and was a supporter of programs that he believed would benefit the Central Coast. His admirable career of public service was dedicated to improving the Coastal Coast, and his contributions have made a significant impact. I, along with the Central Coast community, would like to honor the life of Mr. Blohm's whose dedication and contributions are truly commendable.

TRIBUTE TO WHITEMAN AIR
FORCE BASE 509TH BOMB WING
EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to pay tribute to the Whiteman Air Force Base 509th Bomb Wing emergency response team. On July 12, 2001 the team successfully helped a TWA flight divert a tragedy by acting with precision and expertise.

The 509th Bomb Wing emergency response team is made up of firefighters, security forces, medics, transportation, chaplain, legal, public affairs, and services. Nearly every unit at Whiteman AFB played a role in the successful execution of this mission. After an emergency landing the team was on hand to help safely unload every passenger and transport them to the community center.

At the community center passengers were offered an array of services and support, including meals, free phone calls and entertainment. Members of the team did sign language for a hearing impaired family, spoke Japanese to three passengers that spoke no English and spent their own money on snacks for the travelers.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the members of the 509th Bomb Wing emergency response team for such outstanding performances during the recent unexpected commercial landing. These men and women went above and beyond the call of duty and deserve our praise. I know that Members of the House will join me in sending the 509th Bomb Wing emergency response team a heartfelt thank you for a job well done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, had I been present on Monday, July 23, 2001, the record would reflect that I would have voted: on roll 257, H.R. 2137, Criminal Law Technical Amendments Act of 2001, "yea"; on roll 258, H.R. 1892, Family Sponsor Immigration Act, "yea"; and on roll 259, S. 468, James C. Corman Federal Building Designation Act, "yea".

I was unable to return to Congress on July 23, 2001 due to a funeral of a close family

friend. Therefore, I respectfully request an excused absence for July 23, 2001.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that as a result of several unanticipated flight delays associated with my travel from South Bend, Indiana in my district, I was not able to be present in the chamber to cast my votes on Monday, July 23, 2001. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall No. 257—H.R. 2137, the Criminal Law Technical Amendments Act; "yea" on Rollcall No. 258—H.R. 1892, the Family Sponsor Immigration Act; and "yea" on Rollcall No. 259—S. 468, the James C. Corman Federal Building.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 23, my vote was not recorded on rollcall votes Nos. 257–259. Had my votes been recorded, they would have been in the following manner:

Rollcall vote No. 257 (to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 2137)—' "yea".

Rollcall vote No. 258 (to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 1892)—' "yea".

Rollcall vote No. 259 (to suspend the rules and pass S. 468)—' "yea".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 257, Criminal Law Technical Amendments (H.R. 2137), had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall No. 258, H.R. 1892, Family Sponsor Immigration Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; and on rollcall No. 259, S. 468, the James C. Corman Federal Building Designation Act, had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF WILLIAM N. GUERTIN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of a community leader, Mr. William N. Guertin, who has served the interests of physicians and patients in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties since 1971. Mr. Guertin served as Assistant Executive Director of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association (ACCMA) from 1971 to 1984 and in 1984 be-

came Executive Director of the ACCMA. He continues to serve in that position. Today, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for his leadership in serving the public by promoting and improving the quality of medical care administered to patients throughout his tenure.

Mr. Guertin is well-respected among medical association executives across the country, having been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Medical Society Executives (AAMSE) in 1994. He will be installed as President of AAMSE on July 27, 2001, in Washington, D.C., due to his exemplary accomplishments in the field of medicine.

The Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association (ACCMA) is the second largest county medical association in California, currently with a membership of approximately 3100 medical doctors. Under Mr. Guertin's executive leadership, the ACCMA has promoted the quality of medical care and the well-being of patients in the East Bay community in numerous ways.

Mr. Guertin has worked hard to protect physicians from impositions that interfere with their ability to practice medicine and to preserve their relationships with patients. This has directly benefited physicians by allowing them to maximize their abilities to provide quality care for their patients.

Mr. Guertin has also been involved with exposing proposals that would exploit patients and physicians for profit. His goal has always been to uphold the quality of care for patients by exposing any measures that might hamper this goal in any way. He has extensively reviewed and analyzed health plan contracts while educating physicians on the perils of signing unfair agreements. Often these contracts will contain provisions that conflict the relationship between doctors and their patients by refusing doctors the right to provide medically necessary treatment to patients. As a result of Mr. Guertin's efforts, many physicians refuse to sign contracts that withhold their right to make treatment decisions for their patients.

In his tenure at the ACCMA, Mr. Guertin has created programs and activities to promote public health, quality and access to care, and professional standards in the local medical community. This has allowed patients within the community to lead more robust and healthier lives.

Mr. Guertin has continued to bring issues affecting quality of care to the attention of elected officials and the public to promote effective reforms.

He has operated a community blood bank to maintain an adequate blood supply and needed blood services for patients in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. This has proved to be highly advantageous and convenient in efficiently providing vital care to patients within the community.

Mr. Guertin has also participated on statewide and national advisory committees to promote medical association activities on behalf of physicians and patients.

He has dedicated his life to promoting quality care for patients. He has worked diligently to ensure that physicians are able to promote quality medical care. Mr. Guertin is a respected leader, activist, and humanitarian. He has brought about a wealth of positive change to our community.

I thank Mr. Guertin for dedicating his time and insight for many years and for providing